



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Hopewell Culture National
Historical Park

16062 State Route 104
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

740 774-1126 phone
740 774-1140 fax

Hopewell Culture News Release

Release date: Immediate

Contact(s): Dean Alexander

Phone number: 740 774-1126

Date: 09-07-07

Release code: 07-01

Three Ohio Nominations Advance in World Heritage Process

Three nominations of archaeological and historic sites in Ohio have taken a big step toward being included on the World Heritage list. On September 4 the National Park Service (NPS) released its staff recommendations for proposed nominations of sites in the United States for inclusion on the World Heritage List. Among the 19 cultural and natural nominations included in the recommendations are three from Ohio. No other state had more than two successful nominations. The recommended nominations from Ohio are the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks (a multi-site nomination including Hopewell Culture National Historical Park's (NHP) 5 ancient earthworks in Ross County, Newark Earthworks State Memorial in Licking County, and Fort Ancient State Memorial in Warren County), Serpent Mound in Adams County which is another state memorial administered by the Ohio Historical Society (OHS), and Dayton Aviation Sites (another multi-site nomination including Huffman Prairie Flying Field at Wright-Patterson AFB, The Wright Cycle Company and Wright and Wright Printing, Wright Hall at Carillon Historical Park, and Hawthorn Hill in Greene and Montgomery counties). One other recommended site has an Ohio link. The Gamble House in Pasadena, California was the summer home of David and Mary Gamble, heirs to one of the founders of the Cincinnati-based Procter and Gamble Company.

The United States is in the process of preparing new nominations for the World Heritage List, an honor given to natural and cultural sites with significance to all of the people of the world. There are currently 851 sites in 141 countries on the list, including the Pyramids of Egypt and the Taj Mahal. Only 20 sites in the United States are currently listed, such as the Everglades National Park and the Statue of Liberty. These 19 nominations will comprise the United States updated "Tentative List," which will serve as the source of nominations from which the United States submits sites for review by the World Heritage

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Commission. Inscription on the list is an international honor; no management authority is transferred to the World Heritage Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The designation highlights the importance of the site and the need for preservation. The recognition also helps promote the sites, driving tourism and economic development.

The staff recommendations are an important step in the process to prepare nominations from the United States to the UNESCO. From the final tentative list, two nominations a year from 2009 to 2018 will be submitted. Several steps still remain in preparing the final tentative United States list.

First, the staff recommendations will be reviewed by a subcommittee of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO. The Commission is an agency of the U.S. Department of State. Their review is to be completed by September 27. The subcommittee's report will be considered by the full Commission on October 4. After the October 4 meeting the Department of the Interior will publish the draft tentative list in the Federal Register and request public comments. After the comment period the Secretary of the Interior will transmit a final tentative list to the Secretary of State who is responsible for submitting the list on behalf of the United States to the World Heritage Center in January of 2008.

Three properties nominated from Ohio were not included in the draft tentative list by the NPS. The nomination for the Rankin and Parker houses in Ripley, two important sites on the Underground Railroad, was referred back to the sponsors to expand the nomination to include other important Underground Railroad sites in Ohio as well as other states and those in destination countries, Mexico and Canada. The sponsors were encouraged to submit the revised nomination about this important early aspect of the civil rights movement in the next call for nominations.

SunWatch Indian Village/Archaeological Park in Dayton was originally included in the nomination with Serpent Mound, but was withdrawn due to NPS staff concerns with the reconstructions on the site and their suggestion that Serpent Mound be the first nomination of a potential serial nomination of effigy mound sites in the Midwest.

The public will have several opportunities to experience Ohio's candidates to the World Heritage list at special events in October. On October 5, Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP will recreate the flight of the first practical airplane with a replica Wright Flyer III. This event will be at Huffman Prairie, the site of the original Flyer III's pioneering flights. For additional information on this event call 937-425-0008.

October is also Archaeology Month in Ohio and Hopewell Culture NHP will have special programs on "Hopewell Discovery Day," October 13 at the Mound City Visitor Center two miles north of Chillicothe. Among the activities will be flint knapping, pottery making, guided tours, and atlatl demonstrations. Also that day the Ohio Valley Regional Commission, the OHS, and the NPS will premier a new audio tour of

archeological sites in south central Ohio including Mound City, Hopewell Mound Group, Seip Earthworks, and Serpent Mound, all sites included in the World Heritage nomination.

For further information contact Hopewell Culture NHP Superintendent Dean Alexander at 740-774-1126, or Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP Superintendent Larry Blake at 937-225-7705, or OHS Media Relations Manager Michael Ring at 614-297-2313.

The twelve sites are:

Mound City Group, near Chillicothe-Hopewell Culture NHP

Hopewell Mound Group, near Chillicothe-Hopewell Culture NHP

Hopeton Earthworks, near Chillicothe-Hopewell Culture NHP

High Banks Works, near Chillicothe-Hopewell Culture NHP

Seip Earthworks, near Bainbridge-Seip Mound State Memorial and Hopewell Culture NHP

Fort Ancient, near Oregonia-Fort Ancient State Memorial

Newark Earthworks, Newark and Heath-Newark Earthworks State Memorial

Serpent Mound, near Peebles-Serpent Mound State Memorial

Huffman Prairie Flying Field, Wright-Patterson AFB-USAF and Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP

The Wright Cycle Company and Wright and Wright Printing, Dayton-Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP

Wright Hall at Carillon Historical Park, Dayton-Dayton History and Dayton Aviation Heritage NHP

Hawthorn Hill, Oakwood-Wright Family Foundation